

# JULY

## **DOTS and DASHES** *Valencia County Amateur Radio Association Newsletter*

### UPCOMING DATES

*Every Saturday  
9-12 Breakfast club at  
club house.*

*First and Third Saturday 9-12  
Builder's club at Club house  
Bring a breakfast!*

*Every Wednesday  
8pm Weekly Net*

*Every Thursday  
7:30pm ARES net*

*4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 10-12  
ARES Group*

#### **VE TESTING**

*VE testing is conducted  
monthly the 2nd Saturday  
at the VCARA Clubhouse  
See our website for Important  
Info on this process.*

**READ BELOW FOR OTHER  
EVENTS COMING UP**

### ***Next Meeting Be Prepared***

**FIELD DAY**

**BRING SOME  
POTLUCK!**



### GOING FORWARD!

**WHAT WILL YOU DO???**  
**How can you help this year for the club?**

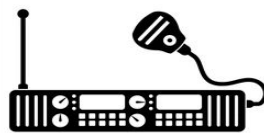
#### **We need help!**

- Find a speaker!
- Plan Field Day!
- Take on Pancake Breakfast at Christmas!
- Organize a special event!
- Speak on a topic that interests you!
- Call people for meeting reminders!
- Do the newsletter! Write a newsletter article! Take your pick!
- Bring cookies for meetings!
- Fill an officer position!
- Write an article for the newsletter!
- Volunteer for the Christmas party set up!
- Send letters to hams who are not members and invite them



**IF EVERYONE DOES A LITTLE – NO ONE DOES IT ALL**

### UPCOMING MEETINGS



Field Day is the next meeting.  
Bring a pot luck item.  
Invite your friends!  
Come pay your dues.

The July meeting will be a guest speaker.  
Let's be sure there is a lot of support for the new presidency  
and the guest speaker.



**Help  
Wanted**

**LOOKING FOR HELP Don't Make Us Beg**

**Looking for a person to find Speakers.**

THIS TAKES TIME AND EFFORT. IF YOU HAVE contacts – instead of passing them on, why not arrange to have someone come speak. Even if you find only one speaker it sure helps the president!

**LOOKING FOR HELP Don't Make Us Beg**

**Looking for a person to invite new members.** Get a master list of hams in the area and send out a letter to each of them. Invite them to a special event or the Christmas party or a normal meeting. Your choice.

**LOOKING FOR DONATIONS -**



As prize coordinator for the September Duke City Ham-Fest (DCHF), Selling raffle tickets is a primary fund raiser to support our event. I'm asking for help procuring donations from local businesses in Valencia County and the greater Abq area. These are typically in the form of Gift Cards and other gift items. These items will be given out at the hourly drawings at the DCHF. Last year there were 17 hourly drawings. We gave away 4 prizes each hour. This is about \$5,000 worth of hourly prizes. We also gave away over \$5000 in amateur radio equipment. Our goal is to top this in 2025.

I have found most Department Stores, Restaurants, Hardware Stores, Home Centers, Car Washes, Coffee Shops, etc., have gift cards and other items of value, to give away, as part of their marketing budget. We have a worthy cause and most businesses will contribute something to us. We just have to visit them. You can help.

I have prepared a Donation Request letter to be given to each business.

Anyone willing to help, please contact me. You will be appreciated.

Gil Gray,  
Belen, NM  
[N2GG@arrl.net](mailto:N2GG@arrl.net)  
510-406-1111

## BY LAW CHANGES ~ BE PREPARED TO VOTE



We will be voting on these JUST BEFORE we start our Field Day

IF you want to vote- but might be late - LET US KNOW!

### Proposed by Charlie, NM5CL

#### Section 4:

##### Current wording in Constitution:

SECTION 4: Dues: Regular Membership --- \$15.00 Family Membership ---- \$18.00 Associate Membership - \$ 6.00 After January 1 the dues for new members will be \$8/ \$9/\$3 for the rest of the dues year. Any member whose dues have not been received by the Treasure within 3 months after expiration date shall be dropped from the membership rolls. The membership dues period will be from July 1 through June 30.

##### Proposed change to wording (in red):

SECTION 4: Dues: **Members of each class shall pay annual dues in amounts as established from time to time by vote of the membership.** Any member whose dues have not been received by the Treasurer within 3 months after expiration date shall be dropped from the membership rolls. The membership dues period will be from July 1 through June 30.

#### SECTION 2:

**Amendments: Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by club members at any regular meeting. Proposed amendments will be voted on at the next regular meeting of the club and notice of such will be included in the monthly newsletter.** Ratification of an amendment requires approval of two-thirds of the club members present at the ratification meeting. Amendments shall become effective on the date of ratification by the elected officers.

#### SECTION 1.2

##### Current wording in Bylaws:

Section 1.2 Principal Office. The principal office of the Corporation shall be located in Belen, Valencia County, New Mexico.

##### Proposed change to wording (in red):

Section 1.2 Principal Office. The principal office of the Corporation shall be located in **Los Lunas**, Valencia County, New Mexico.

#### SECTION 7.1

Section 7.1 Amendments. These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted at **any regular meeting** or at any special meeting of the members called for that purpose by a vote, **either in person or by proxy, of at least two-thirds of the members of the Corporation eligible to vote.**

# Proposed by John, KE0TVT

## Current wording in ByLaws:

This newsletter editor doesn't have that information readily available.

## Proposed Change to Wording:

ARTICLE IV (Directors), Section 4.2, shall read:

Section 4.2. Number and Qualifications of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the four elected officers, a Past President, the ARES DEC (or his/her designated AEC), and one member elected from the rest of the membership (Member at Large). The Member at Large will serve a term of two years. Within this corporation, the terms "officer" and "director" are synonymous. The President shall be the Chairman of the Board of Directors. President and Vice-President shall be regular or family members of the Corporation in good standing. The office of Secretary and that of Treasurer may be held by an Associate member of the corporation in good standing, but shall hold such office without voting privileges.

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### SOME EVENTS TO BE AWARE OF:

ALAMOGORDO AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB'S 39TH ANNUAL HAMFEST  
August 30, 2025 7:00am – 3:00pm (almost)  
Otero County Fair grounds (in Alamogordo  
NM)2025 DUKE

CITY HAMFEST  
September 19-21, 2025  
<https://www.dukecityhamfest.org>

SOCORRO HAMFEST JULY 12 -  
ECHOLINK



**BIG THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:**

The Eldridge and Clark Family Members who cleaned the club house - Including sweeping and mopping and waxing the club floors!

ECHOLINK Now in service on the Meadow Lake repeater 145.430MF KC5OUR-R BIG THANK YOU TO AB1Q

Ralph and Callie Clark for the monthly Cookies

Charlie Lyon for the website that is always up to date.

Earl Cox for running the Builders Club

The Previous Presidency and the incoming presidency for volunteering.

Ginger Eldridge for sometimes arranging speakers and Calling people.

Ralph Clark for making Name Tags and Writing Grants

There are many others- those who helped watch the new parking lot and ramp go in. Those who helped plan field day and did the shopping. Those who bring pot luck items. Those who plan the Christmas Party and set up and clean after. Those who send newsletter articles...

Please remember – if everyone does a little –  
it's a large help and no one does it all



# FIELD DAY INFORMATION

## Preparing for Field Day

Field Day is just around the corner, June 28th and 29th. We will be holding Field Day at the club house again this year. Everyone is invited to come and get on the air and to have lunch. We will be doing our usual potluck lunch. The club will be supplying hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and condiments for them. We ask that if you can, bring a dish or chips, cookies, etc to share with everyone.

We will have the club house open by 9am on the 28th. We will have a brief club meeting at 11am to see if we can pass the amendment to the by-laws that I just sent out, and lunch will start immediately after.

If you would like to sign up for a slot at the radios, You may call John Schaaf or send him an email.

That's all for now. See you soon at Field Day 2025!

73, John K8JWS VCARA President 2025-2026

## **\*\* IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN \*\***

Yes, time flies when you're having fun. What a great year we've had, and for it to continue in 2026, we need to have the funds.

Dues remain fixed at last year's rates.

\$40.00 Family, \$30 Individual, \$20 Associate.

Mail to :

VCARA Treasurer

PO Box 268,

Peralta, NM 87042

or

PayPal to [nm5cl@att.net](mailto:nm5cl@att.net)

We will have the press visit and others visit

**WEAR YOUR NAME TAG PLEASE**

**We are asking everyone – PLEASE** Let's make it an effort for everyone to wear their badge during club events so new members and visitors feel comfortable!

# ABOUT OUR CLUB

## **Wednesday Night Net**

\* See our website for net running protocol\*

Jun 25 – John, K8JWS

Jul 02 – Earl, KB5UEW  
Jul 08 – Nick, KI5MFF  
Jul 16 – Greg, KG5OCW  
Jul 23 – Al, W5ACW  
Jul 30 – John, K8JWS

Aug 06 – Earl, KB5UEW  
Aug 13 – Nick, KI5MFF  
Aug 20 – Greg, KG5OCW  
Aug 27 – AL, W5ACW

Sep 03 – John, K8JWS  
Sep 10 – Earl, KB5UEW  
Sep 19 – Nick, KI5MFF  
Sep 24 – Greg, KG5OCW

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

### **JULY Birthdays**

Lyon, Charlie  
Mirabal, Gloria  
Remenar, Steve  
Rumschlag, Joyce  
Sawders, William  
Sawders, Andrew  
Watters, Karen  
Welander, Lurie



### **INFORMATION**

#### **Website:**

<http://kc5our.com/wordpress/>

#### **Facebook:**

Valencia County Amateur Radio Association

**Dues** may be paid by PayPal  
nm5cl@att.net  
Enter: "Membership Dues Payment"

#### **Main repeater**

145.430 Mhz,

#### **Valencia Middle School repeater**

443.425 Mhz

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### **Breakfast Saturdays**

Club members and visitors are invited to join your fellow hams for informal breakfast and fellowship each Saturday morning. BYOB

Unless otherwise posted, we meet from 0900-1200 at the club.

Non-member guests are always welcome

### **The Builders Club**

hosted by KB5UEW, meets from 0900-1200 on the 1st and 3rd Saturday each month  
Informal electronics theory instruction and construction/testing various projects is covered.

## **Contact Us**

President: John Schaaf  
Vice President: John Haney  
Secretary:  
Treasurer: Charlie NM5CL  
President Former:  
Newsletter Editor: Ginger Eldridge

Chris Gillespie: VCARA ARES committee chair, ARRL DEC for Valencia County New Mexico, W5YI Contact VE for Valencia County NM  
505-450-7447 csgillespie@msn.com.

Cookies and Snacks – Ralph and Callie Clark  
Phone Calls and Texts – Ginger Eldridge  
Makers Group – Earl Cox